

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 NSC-05 AID-05 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00  
EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01  
IGA-02 ACDA-07 ITC-01 AGR-05 /088 W  
-----071207Z 060692 /41

R 061620Z MAY 77  
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3732  
INFO ALL EC CAPTIALS  
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

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E. O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EEC, MT  
SUBJECT: EC-MALTA NEGOTIATIONS

REF: EC BRUSSELS 3200

1. THE FIRST ROUND OF EC-MALTA NEGOTIATIONS ON TRADING  
ARRANGEMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS AFTER JULY 1-- WHEN THE  
FIRST STAGE IN THE GRADUAL EVOLUTION TOWARD A DUSTOMS UNION  
IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE EC-MALTA  
ASSOCIATIONS AGREEMENT- WERE HELD IN BRUSSELS THE WEEK OF  
APRIL 25. ACCORDING TO COMMISSION AND COREPER SOUCES,  
THE COMMUNITY AND MALTA DELGATIONS WERE GENERALLY AGREED  
THAT RAHTER THAN INITIATE THE SECOND STAGE ON JULY 1, THE  
PRESENT STAGE SHOULD BE EXTENDED AT LEAST THROUGH 1979,  
SINCE THE MALTESE INDUSTRIALSECTOR IS NOT YET SUFFICIENTLY  
ADVANCED FOR THE PARTIES TO MOVE INTO THE SECOND STAGE  
(WITH THE LARGE-SCALE MUTUAL REDUCTION OF TARIFFS THAT  
WOULD ENTAIL). THE COMMUNITY IS REPORTEDLY PREPARED TO  
GRANT MALTA SOME ADDITIONAL TARIFF REDUCTIONS IN THE  
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR AFTER JULY 1, IN ANY CASE, ALTHOUGH  
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NOT TO THE EXTENT DESIRED BY THE MALTESE.

2. THE MALTESE DELEGATIONALSO APPARENTLY REQUESTED:  
(A) CHANGES IN THE COMMUNITY'S RULES OF ORIGIN IN THE  
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TO ENABLE MALTA TO EXPORT TO EC  
COUNTRIES A BROAD RANGE OF PRODUCTS PROCESSED FROM  
SEMI-MANUFACTURES NOT ORIGINATING ON THE ISLAND;

(B) REDUCTIONS IN TARIFFS ON MALTESE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ENTERING COMMUNITY MARKETS BEYOND THOSE NEGOTIATED LAST YEAR; AND(C) ACCESS TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES THROUGH THE EC'S SOCIAL AND REGIONAL FUNDS.

OUR SOURCES INDICATE THE COMMUNITY REPLIED THAT:

(A) IT MIGHT BE WILLING TO RELAX THE RULES OF ORIGIN TO SOME EXTENT, THOUGH NOT PERHAPS AS MUCH AS THE MALTESE WOULD LIKE; (B) THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNRELATED TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, SINCE THE EC AND MALTA NEGOTIATED ARRANGEMENTS IN THAT SECTOR LAST YEAR; AND (C) ONLY EC MEMBER STATES HAVE ACCESS TO THE SOCIAL AND REGIONAL FUNDS AND THE COMMUNITY IS, IN ANY CASE, PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO MALTA UNDER A FINANCIAL PROTOCOL NEGOTIATED LAST YEAR.

3. THE TALKS WERE RECESSED APRIL 29 TO GIVE THE MALTESE TIME TO " PAUSE AND REFLECT," IN THE WORDS OF A COMMISSION OFFICIAL. THE COMMISSION AND COREPER BELIEVE THAT THE COMMUNITY AND MALTA SHOULD BE ABLE TO WORK OUT ACCEPTABLE TRADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE POST-JULY 1 PERIOD, NOTING THAT " AS USUAL THE MALTESE ARE ASKING FOR EVERYTHING AT THE BEGINNING OF NEGOTIATIONS ONCE THEY ARE CONVINCED OF THE LIMITS OF COMMUNITY FLEXIBILITY, WE SHOULD OBTAIN AN AGREEMENT. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, TARIFF AGREEMENTS  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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